# Department of Homeland Security Information Analysis and Infrastructure Protection



Current Nationwide
Threat Level is

**ELEVATED** 

# Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 07 May 2003

#### **Daily Overview**

- Reuters reports two huge Southeast nuclear power plants have been added to the growing list of U.S. reactors plagued by cracking or leaking reactor vessels. (See item 2)
- The Washington Times reports the Transportation Security Administration plans to cut 103 screener jobs at Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport, which the Secret Service designated as a top security threat among airports after the September 11 attacks. (See item\_9)
- CNET News.com reports Core Security Technologies has warned in an advisory Monday there are six flaws, two of them critical, in America Online's ICQ software. (See item 21)
- Information Security reports Conectiva, a vendor of Portuguese, Spanish and English versions of Linux, has released updates to correct several vulnerabilities in its implementations. (See item 22)

#### **DHS/IAIP Update Fast Jump**

Production Industries: Energy; Chemical; Defense Industrial Base

Service Industries: Banking and Finance; Transportation; Postal and Shipping

Sustenance and Health: Agriculture; Food; Water; Public Health

Federal and State: Government; Emergency Services

IT and Cyber: Information and Telecommunications; Internet Alert Dashboard

Other: General; DHS/IAIP Web Information

## **Energy Sector**

Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: <u>Physical</u>: Elevated, <u>Cyber</u>: Elevated Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES–ISAC) – <a href="http://esisac.com">http://esisac.com</a>]

1. May 06, Platts Global Energy News — New Iraq oil team faces uphill task to restore output. The team newly appointed by the U.S. administration in Baghdad to run Iraq's oil industry faces an uphill struggle to reverse years of decline in capacity and analysts say it will take at least two years before any increase is seen. According to Washington-based PFC energy, Iraq's oil production has been declining by 4–8% due to insufficient maintenance and workover activity during 12 years of sanctions. Current production capacity is estimated at 2.5–2.8-mil

b/d. **Iraq's total oil reserves are put officially at 113-bil bbl but could be more than double that.** The following is a breakdown of Iraq's oil fields and their estimated capacity: — Qurna West & Majnoon will be key to building production capacity. Together the two fields contain 18–20-bil bbl. Both fields have had wells drilled and both have produced some oil. West Qurna can produce about 150,000 b/d. In the past, Russia's LUKoil was slated to develop this field and expand capacity by 600,000 b/d at a cost of \$3.8-bil. Source: http://www.platts.com/stories/oil1.html

2. May 05, Reuters — FPL, Duke reactors join list of U.S. nuclear woes. Two huge Southeast nuclear power plants have been added to the growing list of U.S. reactors plagued by cracking or leaking reactor vessels, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) said on Monday. The latest additions are FPL Group Inc.'s Unit 2 at the St. Lucie nuclear facility in Florida and Duke Energy Corp.'s Oconee 3 unit in South Carolina. Both reactors are currently down for refueling and pose no public safety hazards. Cracks and minor leaks have been discovered in several of the nation's 69 pressurized water reactors, which make up over half the U.S. fleet of 103 nuclear power plants and generate about 10 percent of the nation's electricity. FPL said the 839 megawatt St. Lucie unit, which generates enough electricity for about 800,000 homes, would receive temporary repairs and the reactor vessel head would not be replaced at this time. Industry inspectors became aware of cracking around some reactor vessel head nozzles several years ago. But the problem took on added urgency in February 2002, when FirstEnergy Corp. found boric acid from inside its Davis—Besse reactor in Ohio had leaked through tiny cracks in the vessel head, eating a hole through the six—inch metal.

Source: <a href="http://www.energycentral.com/sections/news/nw">http://www.energycentral.com/sections/news/nw</a> article.cfm?id =3820553

- 3. May 05, Reuters NRC approves power output hike at Cook nuclear plant. The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) said on Monday it has cleared the way for American Electric Power (AEP) to increase the generating capacity of Unit 2 at its Cook nuclear power plant by 1.5 percent, or 18 megawatts. The generating capacity of the plant, located near Benton Harbor, Michigan, will increase to 1,108 megawatts of electricity by the end of May. One megawatt can power about 1,000 homes. The NRC said it approved the ramp up in generating capacity after reviewing the plant's operations, including nuclear steam supply systems, instrumentation and control systems, electrical systems, accident calculations, radiological consequences, operations and technical specification changes. "The NRC staff determined that the licensee could safely increase the power output of the reactor primarily through increased feedwater flow measurement accuracy," the agency said.

  Source: <a href="http://www.energycentral.com/sections/news/nw-article.cfm?id=3820555">http://www.energycentral.com/sections/news/nw-article.cfm?id=3820555</a>
- 4. May 05, Associated Press Ukrainian reactor shut down after minor accident. A reactor at the Zaporizhia nuclear power station Europe's largest was unexpectedly shut down to fix flaws in the cooling system, emergency officials reported Monday. Reactor No. 2 was down Sunday afternoon and began working again five hours later after a malfunction in the cooling system generator, the Emergency Ministry said in a statement. Radiation levels remained normal, but final repairs were not expected to be complete before Tuesday. Ukraine was the site of the world's worst nuclear accident in 1986, when a reactor at the Chernobyl plant exploded, spewing radiation over Europe. Chernobyl was shuttered in 2000, but disassembly work continues. Officials reported problems this month with the temporary shelter covering the

destroyed reactor. Minor malfunctions at Ukraine's four remaining nuclear power plants occur frequently.

Source: http://www.energycentral.com/sections/news/nw article.cfm?id =3820926

5. May 05, Canadian Press — Natural gas prices to stay volatile for at least three years, say regulators. Consumers can expect at least three more years of heavy price volatility in natural gas before new sources begin to come on stream, North America's top regulators said Monday. Gas bills for rate payers will continue to jump and sink, depending on the weather's impact on demand, due to diminishing conventional supplies and low storage levels, said regulatory officials for Canada, the United States and Mexico. "We're saying, 'We can't see any relief for three years — these new sources of supply are after that,' " Ken Vollman, chairman of Canada's National Energy Board, told a continental energy market conference in the Rocky Mountain resort town of Banff, Alta. "And then from three years on out, we can begin seeing these incremental supplies like (liquefied natural gas), coalbed methane, and if we're successful, in some of the offshore regions, say production from the East Coast, in larger quantities." Vollman said a serious lack of natural gas reserves led to the wild price swings witnessed in 2000 and again last winter. "About three years ago, that reserve margin of natural gas deliverability basically disappeared and the market is in very close equilibrium, so when we get cold weather, prices spike."

Source: http://hsweb01.screamingmedia.com/PMA/pma\_newsarticle1\_natio\_nal.htm?SMDOCID=canadianp\_eng\_2003\_05\_05\_eng-canadianp\_business\_eng-canadianp\_business\_170508\_8177815084884734043entSet=0

6. May 05, Reuters — U.S. utilities race to repair tornado damage. Electric utilities in the central United States were scrambling to restore power to tens of thousands of customers on Monday after tornadoes ripped through the region on Sunday, killing at least 27 people. The twisters killed at least nine in Missouri, seven in neighboring Kansas and 11 in Tennessee, and knocked out electricity to at least 160,000 homes and businesses from eastern Kansas to the Ohio Valley. Missouri and Kansas were among the hardest hit states, with utilities reporting at least 75,000 customers without power as the tornadoes whipped electricity lines, poles and other facilities. Empire District Electric Co., based in Joplin in southwestern Missouri, said tornadoes had ripped up 170 transmission towers supporting high-voltage lines and another 1,000 power poles, leaving 30,000 of its 154,000 customers in the dark. Empire spokeswoman Amy Bass said most of the downed transmission lines were 69 kilovolts linking substations and neighboring communities rather than the much bigger 345 kV lines used to import electricity from remote power plants. "It was a huge, huge storm," Bass said, adding that crews were being rushed in from surrounding utilities and neighboring states to help with the clean-up.

Source: http://www.energycentral.com/sections/news/nw article.cfm?id =3820521

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### **Chemical Sector**

Nothing to report.

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### **Defense Industrial Base Sector**

- 7. May 06, Associated Press Air Force may trim post—9/11 air patrols. The U.S. military may be ready to reduce the air patrols that have protected America's skies since the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, Pentagon officials said. Without commenting on the specifics or the timing of such changes, the Air Force chief of staff, Gen. John Jumper, said Monday that decisions to modify the air patrol mission were in the offing. Jumper said in an Associated Press interview that about 60 aircraft are flying the homeland defense patrols from about 20 U.S. bases. They have been flying continuously over New York City and Washington and intermittently over other parts of the country, Jumper said. "There are things in the works right now that might change this," Jumper said. Pressed for details, he said only that there had been no public announcement of decisions to change the patrols.

  Source: <a href="http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A18710-2003May 6.html">http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A18710-2003May 6.html</a>
- 8. May 06, Federal Computer Week Army tech adaptable for homeland. The Army has identified numerous technologies that can be used to support the nation's first responders, according to one service leader. Gen. Paul Kern, commander of Army Materiel Command, outlined eight solutions that could be used by federal, state and local agencies responding to a natural disaster, terrorist attack or other contingency. He was speaking today at the Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association's TechNet International conference in Washington, D.C.

Source: http://www.fcw.com/geb/articles/2003/0505/web-kern-05-06-03. asp

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# **Banking and Finance Sector**

Nothing to report.

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# **Transportation Sector**

9. May 06, The Washington Times — Screener cuts eyed at Reagan. The Transportation Security Administration plans to cut 103 screener jobs at Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport, which the Secret Service designated as a top security threat among airports after the September 11 attacks. Three screener jobs will be eliminated at Baltimore—Washington International Airport, and none will be cut at Washington Dulles International Airport. The reductions at Reagan Airport, which has 503 screeners, result partly from a budget crunch and partly from updates of the number of passengers. The unusually large reductions at Reagan Airport prompted Rep. James P. Moran, Virginia Democrat, to express concern yesterday about lax security. "It seems strange that all the cuts are being made at National," Moran said. "It just seems very inconsistent to me when National is the closest airport to the Pentagon and our nation's Capitol." The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) uses a formula to determine the number of screeners at each airport based on the number of passengers. Fewer passengers mean fewer screeners. Nationwide, TSA is eliminating 6,000 airport screener jobs by the end of September, a nearly 11 percent drop in the work force. TSA

officials said the job cuts would save the agency about \$280 million a year. Source: <a href="http://www.washingtontimes.com/business/20030506">http://www.washingtontimes.com/business/20030506</a>–73679087.ht m

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## **Postal and Shipping Sector**

10. May 05, Department of Homeland Security: Customs and Border Protection — Hong Kong implements the Container Security Initiative and begins to target and pre-screen cargo destined for U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Commissioner Robert C. Bonner announced today that the Container Security Initiative (CSI) will be operational at the port of Hong Kong for cargo containers destined for U.S. ports. The port of Hong Kong joins the already operational CSI ports of Rotterdam, LeHavre, Bremerhaven, Hamburg, Antwerp, Singapore, Yokohama, Vancouver, Montreal, and Halifax. The port of Hong Kong is one of the world's largest. It ranks number one in the world in terms of the number of cargo containers handled. It also ranks number one in terms of the flow of containers into the U.S. Hong Kong is positioned at a key crossroad in the global trading system, with a high potential to detect items of concern. Last year, nearly 560,000 sea cargo containers entered the U.S. from the port of Hong Kong.

Source: http://www.cbp.gov/xp/cgov/newsroom/press\_releases/05052003.xml

11. May 03, Pacific Business News — U.S. gets tougher about shippers reporting their cargo. The U.S. Bureau of Customs and Border Protection has warned maritime shippers it will now get tougher in holding up sailings from foreign ports to U.S. ports when shippers do not comply with the 24-hour cargo declaration rules. The bureau says it has been focusing only on what it called "significant violations" until now. Shippers cannot get away with vague descriptions like "general merchandise," officials said. Beginning May 4, the bureau says it will issue "Do Not Load" orders for inadequate cargo descriptions and fine shippers who file data late. Beginning May 15, carriers may fined \$5,000 for first violations and \$10,000 for subsequent violations of rules requiring clear and specific name and address information on cargo as well as specific descriptions of what the cargo is.

Source: http://pacific.bizjournals.com/pacific/stories/2003/04/28/da ily82.html

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# **Agriculture Sector**

12. May 06, Wisconsin Ag Connection — Southern wilt virus mostly contained. State crop experts say they feel a plant disease found in some Wisconsin greenhouses is mostly contained and eliminated despite the fact that geraniums from four more local greenhouses have been destroyed to prevent a possible outbreak of the bacteria. Nick Neher with the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture says a total of seven greenhouses in the state have been infected with the Ralstonia solanacearum this year. The disease, often referred to as 'southern wilt,' was unintentionally introduced from geranium cuttings imported from Kenya. "We estimate that we removed more than 33,000 geraniums and almost 7,000 other plants from seven Wisconsin greenhouses," Neher said. "We don't have any pending laboratory

tests at this time and no reports of wilted or yellowed plants have come in and all greenhouses have been released from holding orders.

Source: http://www.wisconsinagconnection.com/story-state.cfm?Id=542&yr=2003

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### **Food Sector**

- 13. May 06, Associated Press Blue Ridge Farms recalls 400 pounds of chicken salad. Federal officials say an Illinois packaged—food manufacturer has recalled about 400 pounds of chicken salad because it might be contaminated with listeria bacteria. The chicken salad was made by Park Forest—based Blue Ridge Farms. The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service says it was distributed in Illinois, Alabama, Colorado, Minnesota and Texas through retail stores. No illnesses have been reported. Source: <a href="http://www.al.com/newsflash/regional/index.ssf?/newsflash/ge">http://www.al.com/newsflash/regional/index.ssf?/newsflash/ge</a> t story.ssf?/cgi—free/getstory ssf.cgi?j0839 BC IL—ChickenS alad—Recaal
- 14. May 06, Reuters U.S. meat companies slow to use irradiation. Irradiation is the single most effective tool in killing food—borne pathogens, but the cost of installing irradiation equipment at meat plants has so far prevented its widespread use, said Elsa Murano, the U.S. Agriculture Department's (USDA) undersecretary for food safety. "I think it is more cost—effective for there to be a central irradiation location that they (meat plants) can send the product to," said Murano. Irradiated meat is available in stores, but sales have been slow. Meat industry sources estimate less than five percent of meat is irradiated. "It has just recently come on line, " said Janet Riley, spokeswoman for the American Meat Institute. "There really hasn't been any major consumer education for it." As a result, major meat companies have preferred to irradiate the small quantities of meat off site rather than spending the money to install bulk treatment facilities at their plants. The Food and Drug Administration and USDA have approved irradiation for ground beef, chicken, and pork, as well as fruits and vegetables, herbs, spices and wheat flour.

Source: http://www.forbes.com/markets/commodities/newswire/2003/05/0 6/rtr962575.html

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### **Water Sector**

Nothing to report.

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### **Public Health Sector**

15. May 06, Reuters — Sickest patients expose health systems' flaws. People with health problems in five English-speaking nations are experiencing "disturbingly high rates" of medical errors, lack of care coordination, poor communication with their doctors, and barriers to accessing care, according to a study released Tuesday. For heavy users of health care services, whether they live in Australia, Canada, New Zealand, the United Kingdom or the

United States, the problems they encounter with the delivery of services and access to care are strikingly similar, researchers report. At least a quarter of sicker adults in Australia, Canada, New Zealand and the U.S. and almost one—fifth of that population in the UK reported experiencing either a medication error or medical mistake in the past two years, according to the poll by Harris Interactive. Among those reporting errors, a majority in each country said it caused serious health problems. One in five sicker patients in Canada and the U.S. and one in six in New Zealand had been sent for duplicative tests or procedures by different health care professionals.

Source: http://asia.reuters.com/newsArticle.ihtml?type=healthNewsoryID=2690559

16. May 06, Reuters — Singapore off U.S. SARS advisory list. The United States removed Singapore from the travel advisory list for avoiding of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) affected areas Tuesday, health officials said. "We are very pleased to announce today that Singapore is no longer on the list," said U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Director Dr. Julie Gerberding. She added that Singapore has contained its SARS epidemic. The advisory remains in effect for Taiwan and China as well as China's special administrative region of Hong Kong, Gerberding said.

Source: http://www.forbes.com/technology/newswire/2003/05/06/rtr9626 48.html

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### **Government Sector**

17. May 06, Washington Post — Varied 9/11 review staff is assembled. The independent commission reviewing the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks has assembled a 53-person staff that includes historians, former federal prosecutors, intelligence analysts, and government researchers. The commission has divided the staff into nine teams to reflect key topics of inquiry. They include intelligence, diplomacy, aviation, the flow of assets to terrorist organizations and the U.S. government's response on the day of the attacks. The panel's report is due next May.

Source: http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dvn/articles/A18226-2003May 5.html

- 18. May 06, Washington Post U.S., France to lead security study. The United States and France agreed on Monday to lead a high-level international study of how to use new, biologically based technologies to prevent forgeries of passports and other travel documents. The United States and France will co-chair a high-level working group of the Group of Eight industrialized countries to develop so-called biometric technologies, which typically use fingerprints, iris scans or facial recognition software to confirm identities and ensure that documents are valid. The agreement was reached during a visit here by Attorney General John D. Ashcroft for a meeting of justice ministers of the G-8 countries.

  Source: <a href="http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A17727-2003May 5.html">http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A17727-2003May 5.html</a>
- 19. May 06, Washington Times Border Patrol nabs \$50 million in drug seizures in three days. The Border Patrol seized more than \$50 million worth of marijuana, cocaine and heroin last week in separate arrests from California to Puerto Rico. The seizures, over a three-day period, came during marine interdiction efforts in Puerto Rico and New York, checkpoint

operations in Texas and line-watch duties in California. It involved more than 10,000 pounds of marijuana, 1,000 pounds of high-grade cocaine and 11 pounds of black tar heroin. Border Patrol spokesman Mario Villarreal said agents at several locations discovered the drugs after various searches and other interdiction efforts.

Source: http://www.washingtontimes.com/national/20030506-2179148.htm

**20.** *May 05, USA Today* — **Homeland Security answers to everyone.** Nearly six months after Congress voted to reorganize the federal government by combining 22 agencies and 180,000 employees into one Cabinet-level Department of Homeland Security, the House and Senate have not significantly streamlined their own operations to deal with it. Eighty-eight committees and subcommittees continue to have jurisdiction over pieces of the new department, which includes the Coast Guard, Customs, the Transportation Security Administration, the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the Secret Service, **Bush administration officials say.** By the end of this week, department officials will have appeared at nearly 50 hearings. That's fewer than the Defense Department, which has a budget 10 times the size of Homeland Security's and has sent people to testify about 140 times. But it's far more than most federal agencies. Department officials say they also have conducted hundreds of informal briefings and meetings with lawmakers and aides.

Source: http://www.usatoday.com/news/washington/2003-05-05-committee s-usat x.htm

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# **Emergency Services Sector**

Nothing to report.

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# **Information and Telecommunications Sector**

21. May 06, CNET News.com — Security group: AOL's ICQ is flawed. There are six flaws, two of them critical, in America Online's (AOL) ICQ software, security firm Core Security Technologies warned in an advisory Monday. Three of the vulnerabilities, including one of the critical flaws, occurred in the software's e-mail feature. A bug in the component could allow an attacker to use the way the software handles e-mail to cause it to execute code, if the attacker can impersonate the user's e-mail server. The other critical vulnerability appeared in a feature of ICO that allows automated updating. Because that component doesn't have adequate security, an attacker could pretend to be sending a legitimate update when in reality the upgrade is hostile code. No one from AOL's ICQ subsidiary was available Monday to comment on the alleged flaws. The advisory is available on the Core Security Technologies website:

http://www.coresecurity.com/common/showdoc.php?idx=315ccion=10.

Source: http://zdnet.com.com/2100-1105 2-999870.html

22. May 05, Information Security — Multiple vulnerabilities in Conectiva implementations. Conectiva, a vendor of Portuguese, Spanish and English versions of Linux, has released updates to correct several vulnerabilities in its implementations. These could allow an

attacker to run arbitrary code, cause denial of service or crash applications. A

vulnerability in glibc, a GNU C Library could be used by an attacker to create an overflow problem in the xdrmem family of functions to run arbitrary code or crash applications. Another pair of vulnerabilities involves the Apache Web server. A memory leak could allow an attacker to deplete memory and cause a denial of service. There are also file descriptor leaks that could give privileges to untrusted CGI scripts. **Updated versions are available from the Conectiva website:** <a href="http://distro.conectiva.com.br/atualizacoes">http://distro.conectiva.com.br/atualizacoes</a>

Source: http://www.infosecuritymag.com/2003/may/digest05.shtml#news1

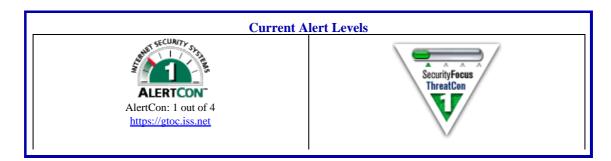
23. May 05, Computerworld — Offshore coding work raises security concerns. IT professionals are raising questions about the U.S. software industry's reliance on overseas software developers, arguing that the practice puts companies and the U.S. economy at risk. A recent study by Gartner Inc. predicts that by 2004, more than 80% of U.S. companies will consider outsourcing critical IT services, including software development, to countries such as India, Pakistan, Russia and China. But some users at last week's Techno—Security Conference in Myrtle Beach, S.C., said the trend needs to be reconsidered in light of recent changes in the global security environment. Of particular concern is the work that is being sent to China. While not yet a major provider of outsourcing services, China has a significant economic espionage program that targets U.S. technology, the users noted. Also of concern are countries in Southeast Asia, particularly Malaysia and Indonesia, where terrorist networks are known to exist.

Source: http://www.computerworld.com/securitytopics/security/story/0\_,10801,80935,00.html

24. May 05, Government Computer News — Terror attack mock—up has a cyber angle. The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and dozens of federal, state and local agencies will launch a simulated five—day terrorist attack on May 12 designed to include a small role for cyberwarfare, officials said Monday. The attack game, called Topoff 2, will include a small element of computer warfare, said Ted Macklin, assistant director of the Office of Domestic Preparedness (ODP). It will not focus on an emergency operations center takedown but on the ability of state and local authorities to recognize a cyberattack, he said. Seattle Mayor Greg Nickles said that participants will begin with the assumption that their computers will work, but "that could be an area they surprise us with." An ODP official who is working on Topoff 2 said DHS has contracted with Dartmouth College's Institute of Security and Technology studies to prepare a "sand table" analysis of a cyberattack, in coordination with Seattle.

Source: http://www.gcn.com/vol1\_no1/daily-updates/22003-1.html

#### **Internet Alert Dashboard**



Security Focus ThreatCon: 1 out of 4  http://analyzer.securityfocus.com/  Current Virus and Port Attacks	
Virus:	#1 Virus in the United States: WORM_LOVGATE.F Source: <a href="http://wtc.trendmicro.com/wtc/wmap.html">http://wtc.trendmicro.com/wtc/wmap.html</a> , Trend World Micro Virus Tracking Center [Infected Computers, North America, Past 24 hours, #1 in United States]
Top 10 Target Ports	137 (netbios—ns), 80 (www), 1434 (ms—sql—m), 25 (smtp), 113 (ident), 6346 (gnutella—svc), 445 (microsoft—ds), 139 (netbios—ssn), 9007 (——), 7274 (——) Source: <a href="http://isc.incidents.org/top10.html">http://isc.incidents.org/top10.html</a> ; Internet Storm Center

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### **General Sector**

25. May 06, New York Times — 39 left dead as tornadoes shatter towns. The storms pounded the country's midsection for hours, leaving Louisville, Ky., without lights for the Monday morning rush, flooding parts of Iowa, where 2.83 inches of rain fell in 24 hours, and dropping baseball—size hail in parts of Nebraska and South Dakota, the Federal Emergency Management Agency said. State officials said the tornadoes took 18 lives in Missouri, 14 in Tennessee and 7 in Kansas; no one died in Arkansas, though a woman from Antioch, 50 miles north of Little Rock, was in critical condition after emergency surgery for a head injury. The FEMA director, Michael D. Brown, planned to visit both Missouri and Kansas on Tuesday. In Missouri, the governor has asked that 39 counties be declared federal disaster areas, and in Kansas such a request has been made for seven counties. Perhaps no one place was hit as hard as Pierce City, a quaint village of antique shops about 40 miles southwest of Springfield that was about to celebrate its 133rd birthday with a Spring Fling scheduled for May 17. Officials said 40 to 50 homes and all of the town's 40 businesses suffered severe damage, with most being declared a total loss.

Source: http://www.nytimes.com/2003/05/06/national/06TORN.html

- 26. May 06, New York Times Saddam Hussein's son took \$1 billion just before war, bank aide says. In the hours before American bombs began falling on the Iraqi capital, one of President Saddam Hussein's sons and a close adviser carried off nearly \$1 billion in cash from the country's Central Bank, according to American and Iraqi officials here. The removal of the money, which would amount to one of the largest bank robberies in history, was performed under the direct orders of Hussein, according to an Iraqi official with knowledge of the incident. The sheer volume of the cash was so great some \$900 million in American \$100 bills and as much as \$100 million worth of euros that three tractor—trailers were needed to cart it off, the Iraqi official said. It took a team of workers two hours to load up the cash. Their work was completed before employees of the downtown Baghdad bank arrived for work.

  The seizure of the money was confirmed by a United States Treasury official assigned to work with Iraqi financial officers here to rebuild the country's banking and financial system.

  Source: <a href="http://www.nytimes.com/2003/05/06/international/worldspecial/06BANK.html">http://www.nytimes.com/2003/05/06/international/worldspecial/06BANK.html</a>
- **27.** *May 06, Associated Press* **Man denies supporting al Qaeda.** An Arab–American pleaded not guilty on Monday to charges he tried to join up with Taliban and al Qaeda forces fighting

U.S. troops in Afghanistan. Maher "Mike" Hawash, 39, a U.S. citizen of Palestinian descent, is charged with conspiracy to levy war and conspiracy to provide material support to al Qaeda, along with conspiracy to contribute services to both al Qaeda and the Taliban. Authorities said Hawash and six others — five men and a woman — were in on the alleged plot. Five of the suspects are in custody and have pleaded not guilty. The sixth remains at large. Hawash, a self—employed software engineer, is accused of traveling to China in October 2001 with the other men in a failed attempt to enter Afghanistan. The woman is accused of wiring

Source: http://www.boston.com/dailyglobe2/126/nation/Man\_denies\_trying\_to\_back\_Qaeda+.shtml

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money to the men.

#### **DHS/IAIP Products & Contact Information**

The Department of Homeland Security's Information Analysis and Infrastructure Protection (IAIP) serves as a national critical infrastructure threat assessment, warning, vulnerability entity. The IAIP provides a range of bulletins and advisories of interest to information system security and professionals and those involved in protecting public and private infrastructures. By visiting the IAIP web–site (<a href="http://www.nipc.gov">http://www.nipc.gov</a>), one can quickly access any of the following DHS/IAIP products:

<u>DHS/IAIP Warnings</u> – DHS/IAIP Assessements, Advisories, and Alerts: DHS/IAIP produces three levels of infrastructure warnings. Collectively, these threat warning products will be based on material that is significant, credible, timely, and that address cyber and/or infrastructure dimensions with possibly significant impact.

<u>DHS/IAIP Publications</u> – DHS/IAIP Daily Reports, CyberNotes, Information Bulletins, and other publications

<u>DHS/IAIP Daily Reports Archive</u> – Access past DHS/IAIP Daily Open Source Infrastructure Reports

#### DHS/IAIP Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report Contact Information

Content and <a href="mailto:nipc.osis.gov">nipcdailyadmin@mail.nipc.osis.gov</a> or contact the DHS/IAIP Daily Report Team at

Suggestions: 202–324–1129

Distribution Information Send mail to <u>nipcdailyadmin@mail.nipc.osis.gov</u> for more information.

#### **Contact DHS/IAIP**

To report any incidents or to request information from DHS/IAIP, contact the DHS/IAIP Watch at <u>nipc.watch@fbi.gov</u> or call 202–323–3204.

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